

Who is the Naturopathic Institute?

- Licensed by the State of Michigan to offer diploma programs in natural health for over 20 years
- Accredited by the American Naturopathic Medical Accreditation Board
- Excellent standing in the state and community
- A provider of employment for 35 women
- Provider of a well-respected credential at the end of the program. A credential that is proud fully earned, not just given.
- One of the toughest testing schools in the nation
- Employs instructors who are all credentialed and working fully in their field of expertise
- Attracts students from all walks of life, including nurses, chiropractors, single mothers, veterans, teachers, retirees, young people, and women in general.
- We are different because we focus on education, building community, raising healthy children and families, using our learned authoritative teaching to provide affordable health care.

HB4531 Effects on the Naturopathic Institute Summary:

- Over 200 current students affected
- Detrimental to the Institute and all those who seek education in the future
- Provides employment for 17 staff members and 18 instructors – all of whom are women

Webster's Dictionary defines Doctor as a learned, authoritative teacher.

- HB 4531 licenses Naturopathic Physicians, restricts the title of Naturopathic Doctor.
- Naturopathic Doctor indicates we are educated, earning the title, versus someone practicing naturopathy as a hobby.
- We do not actively advertise or pretend to be other than educators and servers of the public.

There are five schools outside of Michigan that offer the Naturopathic Physicians program: Washington, Oregon, Illinois, Arizona and Connecticut. No schools in Michigan.

Thirty-five states, including Michigan, already allow for non-licensure of Naturopathic Doctors. Naturopathic Doctors are no threat to the public.

Other states, such as California, have not been able to generate enough revenue to offset the oversight board, and its functions.

Our organization met with the people representing the Naturopathic Physicians who are seeking this licensure, requesting one change to the bill – to not restrict the title of Naturopathic Doctor, but they were inflexible in meeting our request.

HB4531 creates a monopoly in the Natural Health business in the State of Michigan, which affects small business owners, careers for women and goes against our constitutional rights of choice.